Enabling the County to Explore Enterprise Content Management Software and Hardware Solutions

On December 16, 2008 the Los Angeles County (County) Board of Supervisors (Board) approved the Chief Information Officer's (CIO) recommendation to adopt the EMC Documentum (Documentum) proprietary solution as a standard for the County's Enterprise Content Management (ECM), authorize the CIO to evaluate potential ECM vendors, and amend the standard as appropriate.

Content management is an essential technology that enables the County to shift from a paper-centric to an electronic, web-accessible, more transparent government. The County uses ECM to manage important documents from disparate content formats in a secure yet structured and centralized fashion. County departments have been encouraged to utilize the County's central ECM system to realize cost savings through economies of scale, and improve digital content governance through a secure trusted environment.

Gartner Inc. (Gartner), a research and advisory firm, periodically conducts market research to evaluate ECM solutions and uses the findings to publish its Magic Quadrant - MORE -

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report. Since the adoption of the Documentum standard, Gartner has reported in the Magic Quadrant report that organizations have more options for procuring and delivering ECM. These options include software as a service, shared services, and open-source software, in addition to traditional on-premise software deployments. Gartner has emphasized that past and future market consolidation, competition, and technology evolution will continuously impact the strategies of ECM vendors leading them to offer a wider range of new ECM capabilities and features.

In the past eight years, Gartner has consistently identified and categorized several vendors as leaders in its Magic Quadrant report including Documentum, IBM, Open Text, Oracle, Microsoft, Perceptive Software and various others. Gartner's Magic Quadrant list of leaders changes every year based on the performance of vendors' software suites. With such a wide range of options in the marketplace, it is unnecessary for the County to limit itself to a single proprietary solution or brand. The County should assess the feasibility of adopting new technologies while considering existing product investments and evolution and continuously explore and evaluate new ECM solutions to determine which ECM solution provides the best functional capabilities to support the County's objectives and requirements. Furthermore, the existence of several viable ECM solutions and technologies in the product market should enable the County to purchase the most efficient and cost-effective ECM solutions through open and competitive solicitations.

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I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

- Direct the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to encourage Los Angeles County (County) departments to adopt and utilize the centralized Enterprise Content Management (ECM) System; and
- Direct the CEO to sunset the ECM software standard approved by the Board of Supervisors on December 16, 2008 that requires the use of the EMC Documentum solution as the standard for the County of Los Angeles.

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